

# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING AGENDA

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**Meeting Date:** Friday, January 20, 2012      **Time:** 10:00 am - Noon  
**Place:** Veteran's Memorial Hall  
801 Grand Avenue  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Please RSVP to Chair (235-5779) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

## **Call to Order**

- Flag Salute
- Roll List
- Approval of **November** Minutes [*January Minute Taker: Maryanne Zarycka*]
- Approval of Agenda

**Introductions of Members and Guests:** **Members please include announcements and updates during this time.**

**Presentation:** **Senior Friendly Communities: Listening Session** conducted by joyce ellen lippman, Director of the Area Agency on Aging. The Draft Area Plan which presents proposed allocation of monies by the AAA to address the needs of senior citizens in greatest social and economic need will be reviewed.

**Noon:** Adjournment

Next meeting: February 17, 2012   Minute Taker: Angela Viles

## **SLO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING**

Veterans Memorial Hall

801 Grand Avenue

San Luis Obispo

### **Minutes for January 20, 2012**

**Members Present:** Marilyn Hamilton, Anita Shower, Alice York, Maryanne Zarycka, Judy Mishoulam, Kathleen Bellefontaine, Jo Dennison, Diane Maiorano, Judy Salamacha, Margaret Ensminger, Julie Macedo, Dorothy Schlitz, Mike Suddarth, Elias Nimeh, Angela Viles, Rosa Fernandez, Carol Schmidt

**Absent:** Marie Pounders

**Guests:** Cherie Aispuro (Dist 2), Susan Devine (Dist 3), Kelly Hannula (ILRC), Brian Petersen (Senior Living Consultants), Rick London (United Way), Therese Johnson (Senior Care Consultants), Donna Matthews (Senior Care Consultants), Julie Cox (SLO City Fire Dept), John Banks, K. Kellogg, Pat McKaye, Dan Woodson, Judith Bernstein, Joyce Ellen Lippman and Jan Dreyer, Area Agency on Aging presenters.

**Call to Order:** by Chair Bellefontaine at 10:10 a.m. Flag Salute. Circulation of roll lists.

**Minutes** from November 2011 meeting: accepted

**Agenda:** accepted without change

**Public Comments:** None

**Guest Comments:**

**Introductions** were made by all members and guests.

**Presentation: Senior Friendly Communities: Listening Session conducted by Joyce Ellen Lippman, Director of Area Agency on Aging.** Presentation and review of the Draft Area Plan which proposes allocation of monies of AAA to address the needs of senior citizens in the greatest social and economical need. (Special meeting and report – business was kept to a minimum.)

Joyce Ellen presented a 47 page plan for recommendation of identifying priorities, including scenarios of what to do with more, and less money. She talked from her 4 page summary which included the following items:

- AAA is federally funded and was established in 1974.
- How the funds are allocated between SB and SLO Counties based on residents over the age of 60. SB County receives 56%, SLO County receives 44%.
- Its mission is to help create senior friendly, and safe and healthy communities.
- Advocacy for seniors includes providing communities that are (AAA) Available, Accessible, and Affordable.
- Reduction for AAA was only 1.89% this time, so it is “not an issue” at this time.
- The reductions in federally funded programs that do concern AAA are IHSS reduction, Ombudsmen elimination, and Elder Justice Act (elder abuse) unfunded.
- Some Congregate meals dollars moved to mental health, and there is some support for in-home meal services.
- Summary shows the divide of \$2.5 million in the Area Plan.

- \$10,000 to hospital care/substance abuse. 1/3 of hospital visits are from injuries or harm caused by 1. Mixing meds, or 2. Combined drug and alcohol use. Focus on medication management in this area.
- \$45,000 allocated to Mental Health. 300 seniors a year suffer from depression, mostly brought on by isolation.
- Monies have been allocated for Caregiver services. 80% of care is provided by unpaid family members.

#### **Comments, Questions & Suggestions from participants:**

- New program needed: Home inspection for safety hazards
- Gate Keeper Program now exists: Community organizations alerted and trained (awareness training) to notice and report signs of seniors in trouble (Postal Services, Banks, Markets, Pharmacy, etc...)
- Share a Home Project: Matching people for shared housing (so far unsuccessful).
- ALWP: Assisted Living Waiver Program (pilot program-not in SLO county) to help low income seniors afford assisted living.
- Smoke alarms and batteries: Suggested to check with fire department and Cal Poly students, and inform at Rotary meetings.
- Food Services: 200,000 meals served in SB and SLO counties. Funding based on population rather than on meals being served. In SLO about 200 seniors not being fed (on waiting list).
- Agencies, clubs, and groups are asked to help donate time and money to help subsidize limited federal funding.
- Learning and Education: Budget cuts at Cuesta and Cal Poly have minimized or eliminated free education programs for seniors. OSHER: Life Long Learning of Central Coast is no longer offered in SLO.
- Village concept: People helping people, neighborhood watch, "it takes a village" are some concepts being explored.
- Intergenerational exposure: Interaction between generations is being explored.

#### **Unfinished Business**

Hand outs and updated materials for members' binders were circulated.

Should Hearing Advocacy Committee be disbanded? Is Mission Accomplished? Discuss at March meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 12 noon by unanimous vote.

Submitted by: Maryanne Zarycka

Edited by: Kathleen Bellefontaine